



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

December 15, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution Honoring Daniel Varner

Attached is a draft resolution honoring Daniel Varner for his four years of service on the State Board of Education.

The Board extends to Mr. Varner its highest regard and heartfelt gratitude for his dedication and expertise as a State Board of Education member.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 15, 2014, honoring Daniel Varner.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT  
DANIEL VARNER – SECRETARY • RICHARD ZEILE – TREASURER  
MICHELLE FECTEAU – NASBE DELEGATE • LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY  
KATHLEEN N. STRAUS • EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

## RESOLUTION

### DANIEL VARNER

WHEREAS, Daniel Varner was appointed to the State Board of Education by Governor Jennifer Granholm to fulfill a term from October 27, 2010 - January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Dan received his high school diploma from the University of Detroit Jesuit High School; and earned both a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and a Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Dan is the Chief Executive Officer of Excellent Schools Detroit, a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that every child in Detroit has an excellent education; and

WHEREAS, Dan served as Chief Executive Officer for the youth development organization Think Detroit Police Athletic League (Think Detroit PAL), which he co-founded as Think Detroit; and

WHEREAS, Dan worked as an attorney in Detroit, Michigan, at the Federal Defender Office and with Sachs, Waldman, O'Hare, Helveston, Bogas & McIntosh, PC; and

WHEREAS, Dan has been awarded the Jane L. Mixer Award for Contributions to Social Justice, the Manhattan Institute Social Entrepreneurship Award, and Crain's Detroit Business Best-Managed Nonprofit Award; and

WHEREAS, Dan was recognized by the Skillman Foundation as an Ordinary Hero who is an education influencer and a man on a mission to push Detroit high school graduation rates to 90 percent; and

WHEREAS, Dan was elected by her peers to serve as Secretary of the State Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Dan is known to be a respectful, collaborative, persistent, leader and consensus builder with a passion for education, youth development and creating healthy, safe environments for children in Michigan and especially Detroit; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education extends to Daniel Varner its highest regard and heartfelt gratitude for the dedication and expertise he has brought to the children of Michigan, their parents, and the millions of Michigan citizens his work has affected and impacted; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education expresses its fervent wish that Daniel Varner enjoys many rewarding experiences with his children Joel, Serena and Lauren, and his extended family and friends.